CLAIMS

We claim:

1   1.   A method of managing data in a data processing system, said

2   method comprising:

3   providing contract and project guidelines;

4   providing expense data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines;

5   providing time data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines;

6   processing expense and time data corresponding to the contract and project

7   guidelines;

8   routing expense data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines; and

9   routing time data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines.

1   2.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the contract and project

2   guidelines comprise:

3   contract and project types;

4   contract and project status;

5   timesheet entry configurations;

6   expense sheet entry configurations;

7   timesheet approval configurations;

8   expense sheet approval configurations; and

9   expense rules.

1   3.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the contract and project

2   guidelines comprise:

3   resource assignments;

4   task assignments; and

5   manager assignments.

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1   4.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the time data

2 comprises:

3   periodic time entries for a multitude of projects and contracts:

4   a type of time category selection; and

5   a class of work completed selection.

1   5.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the time data is entered

2 by a Resource via a network.

1   6.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the time data is divided

2 into individual cells of time with an associated cell status and routing path.

1   7.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the expense data

2 comprises:

3   periodic expense entries for a multitude of projects and contracts:

4   expense types;

5   expense categories;

6   payment types;

7   foreign currency types; and

8   split-expenses.

1   8.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the expense data is

2   entered by a Resource via a network.

1   9.   The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the expense data is

2   divided into individual cells of time with an associated cell status and routing path.

1   10.   The method as claimed in claim 1, said method further comprising

2   generating invoices from approved expense and time data.

1   11.   The method as claimed in claim 1, said method further comprising

2   generating financial analysis reports.

1   12.   A computer readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of

2   instructions, said plurality of instructions when executed by a computer, cause said

3   computer to perform:

4   providing contract and project guidelines;

5   providing expense data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines;

6   providing time data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines;

7   analyzing expense and time data corresponding to the contract and project

8   guidelines;

9   routing expense data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines; and

10   routing time data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines.

1   13.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

2 additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer. cause

3 said computer to perform providing contract and project guidelines further comprising:

4   providing contract and project types;

5   providing contract and project status;

6   providing timesheet entry configurations;

7   providing expense sheet entry configurations;

8   providing timesheet approval configurations;

9   providing expense sheet approval configurations; and

10   providing expense rules.

1   14.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

2 additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer, cause

3 said computer to perform the method of providing contract and project guidelines further

4 comprising:

5   providing resource assignments;

6   providing task assignments; and

7   providing manager assignments.

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1   15.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

2 additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer, cause

3 said computer to perform the method of providing time data further comprising:

4   providing periodic time entries for a multitude of projects and contracts;

5   providing a type of time category selection; and

6   providing a class of work completed selection.

1   16.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

2   additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer, cause

3   said computer to perform the method of providing time data further comprising dividing

4   time data into individual cells of time with an associated cell status and routing path.

1   17.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

2   additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer, cause

3   said computer to perform the method of providing expense data further comprising:

4   providing periodic expense entries for one or more projects and contracts:

5   providing expense types;

6   providing expense categories;

7   providing payment types;

8   providing foreign currency types; and

9   providing split-expenses.

1   18.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

2   additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer, cause

3   said computer to perform the method of providing expense data further comprising

4   dividing expense data into individual cells of time with an associated cell status and

5   routing path.

1   19.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon

2   additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer, cause

3   said computer to further perform the method of generating invoices from approved

4   expense and time data.

1   20.   The computer-readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon-

2   additional instructions, said additional instructions when executed by a computer, cause

3   said computer to further perform the method of generating financial analysis reports.

1   21.   A system for managing data in a data processing system, said

2   system comprising:

3   means for providing contract and project guidelines;

4   means for providing expense data corresponding to the contract and project

5   guidelines;

6   means for providing time data corresponding to the contract and project

7   guidelines;

8   means for processing expense and time data corresponding to the contract and

9   project guidelines;

10   means for routing expense data corresponding to the contract and project

11   guidelines; and

12   means for routing time data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines.

1   22.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2   providing contract and project guidelines comprise:

3   means for providing contract and project types;

4   means for providing contract and project status;

5   means for providing timesheet entry configurations;

6   means for providing expense sheet entry configurations;

7   means for providing timesheet approval configurations;

8   means for providing expense sheet approval configurations; and

9   means for providing expense rules.

1   23.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2 providing contract and project guidelines comprise:

3   means for providing resource assignments;

4   means for providing task assignments; and

5   means for providing manager assignments.

1   24.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2 providing time data comprises:

3   means for providing periodic time entries for a multitude of projects and

4   contracts;

5   means for providing a type of time category selection; and

6   means for providing a class of work completed selection.

1   25.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2 providing time data comprises means for time data entry by a Resource via a network.

1   26.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2 providing time data comprises means for dividing the time data into individual cells of

3 time with an associated cell status and routing path.

1   27.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2 providing expense data comprises:

3   means for providing periodic expense entries for a multitude of projects and

4   contracts;

5   means for providing expense types;

6   means for providing expense categories;

7   means for providing payment types;

8   means for providing foreign currency types; and

9   means for providing split-expenses.

1   28.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2 providing expense data comprises means for entering expense data by a Resource via a

3 network.

1   29.   The system as claimed in claim 21, wherein the means for

2 providing expense data comprises means for dividing the expense data into individual

3 cells of time with an associated cell status and routing path.

1   30.   The system as claimed in claim 21, said system further comprising

2 means for providing invoices from approved expense and time data.

1   31.   The system as claimed in claim 21, said system further comprising

2 means for providing financial analysis reports.

1   32.   A carrier wave containing data from a data processing system. said

2   carrier wave comprising:

3   contract and project guidelines;

4   expense data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines;

5   time data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines;

6   expense and time data analyzed corresponding to the contract and project

7   guidelines;

8   expense routing data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines; and

9   time routing data corresponding to the contract and project guidelines.